

REMARKS

Claims 1-21, 23, 25-38, 40, 43-63, and 65-68 are pending in the present Application. Claims 1-15, 32, 53-62, and 65-68 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 16, 26, 30, 34, 36-38, 50, 52, and 63 have been amended for clarification, claims 33, 35, 49, and 51 have been canceled, and no claims have been added, leaving claims 16-21, 23, 25-31, 34, 36-38, 40, 43-48, 50, 52, and 63 for consideration upon entry of the present amendment. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejection

Claims 16-21, 23, 25-31, 37, 40, 43-48, and 63 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, because the specification allegedly does not reasonably provide enablement for any and all types of materials. Claims 33-36, 38, and 49-52 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly not indicating what the material in those claims is a part of (e.g., a splat, interpass boundary, etc.). Claims 33, 35, 49, and 51 have been canceled, rendering the rejections of these claims moot.

Independent claims 16, 37, and 63 have been amended to indicate that the material, thermal barrier coating, or each layer of a coating, respectively, comprises a metal oxide, metal carbide, metal nitride, metal silicide, semiconductor, stabilized or partially stabilized ceramic, or a combination of one or more of the foregoing. Support for these amendments can at least be found in paragraphs 41 and 42 of the specification as originally filed. Those claims and claim 26 have also been amended to clarify that the splats, the interpass boundary, and the vertical cracks are present in the claimed material. Accordingly, no new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, rejections of independent claim 16, 37, and 63, and the claims depending therefrom.

It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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